

A regular meeting of the North Brunswick Township Council was held on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Complex located at 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Mayor Womack called the meeting to order.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Davis and Corbin
Absent: Mr. Socio and Mr. Andrews

Also present: Township Attorney, Ronald Gordon, Esq., Business Administrator, Robert Lombard, Chief Financial Officer, Kala Sriranganathan, Department of Public Works, Eric Chaszar, Director of Community Development, Michael Hritz, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services, Lou Ann Benson, Future Business Administrator, Kathy Monzo and Deputy Clerk, Milvi Weiner.

Ms. Weiner announced that the notice requirements of the law have been satisfied. Notices were sent by certified mail on January 4, 2016 to the following:

- a) The Home News & Tribune b) Star Ledger c) North Brunswick Sentinel

Notice receipts are on file in the Township Clerk’s office. Also, notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and filed in the Clerk’s office on January 4, 2016.

Director of Community Development, Michael Hritz led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Womack asked council members if any items are to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Ms. Nicola to approve items “5a – 5l” on the agenda, second by Mr. Davis.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Davis and Corbin
Absent: Mr. Socio and Mr. Andrews

Consent Agenda:

- a. Authorizing the reinstatement of installment payments for property owners within Belcourt at Hidden Lake for Water Sewer Project _____ 151-5.16
- b. Authorizing the cancellation of a township lien _____ 152-5.16
- c. Authorizing In Rem Foreclosure Proceedings _____ 153-5.16
- d. Deferring additional School Tax Liability - \$850,000.00 _____ 154-5.16
- e. Canceling balances from Water Utility Operating Fund Debt Service Appropriation _____ 155-5.16
- f. Applying for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program 2016 Recreation Trails Program Grant _____ 156-5.16
- g. Authorizing a road closing on Willow Avenue _____ 157-5.16
- h. Authorizing the Youth Sports Festival to conduct Fireworks Display _____ 158-5.16
- i. Amending contract BID14001 with Lucas Brothers, Inc. for the 2014 Road Improvement Program Project Closeout Change Order (\$49,159.14) _____ 159-5.16
- j. Authorizing an adjustment to a township resident for their water-sewer utility account _____ 160-5.16
- k. Confirming the sale of eighty seven (87) Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECS) via auction _____ 161-5.16
- l. Payment of bills _____ 162-5.16

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve item #6 on the Agenda. Approval of minutes: Regular Council Meeting / May 2, 2016. So moved by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Narra.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Davis and Corbin
Absent: Mr. Socio and Mr. Andrews

Public Hearing: Authorizing the Private Improvements Performance Bond Release for DCH Investments

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing. No comments from the public. Mayor Womack called for a motion to close the public hearing, so moved by Mr. Corbin, second by Ms. Narra.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis and Corbin
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. Socio and Mr. Andrews

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve Resolution #163-5.16 - "Authorizing the Private Improvements Performance Bond Release for DCH Investments.", so moved by Ms. Nicola, second by Mr. Davis.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis and Corbin
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. Socio and Mr. Andrews

Ordinance / Second Reading / Public Hearing:

#16-06 - An Ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 205, "Land Use" of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick, to include new Sections 205.71(A)(6) and 205.71(C)(4), and 205-105(I) to permit and establish Development Standards for "Billboards"

Councilman Socio arrives to the dais at 7:07 pm.

Mayor Womack opened the public hearing on Ordinance #16-06. No comments from the public.
Motion made by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Nicola that the public hearing be closed.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance # 16-06. So moved by Ms. Nicola, second by Mr. Corbin, Ordinance No. 16-06 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the May 19, 2016 issue of the Home News and Tribune.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis, Socio and Corbin
Nays: none
Absent: Mr. Andrews

#16-07 – An Ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 276, "Sewer" Article I, "Use", Section 276.7, "Sewer Rentals" of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick

Mayor Womack opened the public hearing on Ordinance #16-07. No comments from the public.
Motion made by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Socio that the public hearing be closed.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance # 16-07. So moved by Ms. Nicola, second by Mr. Corbin, Ordinance No. 16-07 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the May 19, 2016 issue of the Home News and Tribune.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis, Socio and Corbin
Nays: none
Absent: Mr. Andrews

#16-08 - An Ordinance deleting and repealing Chapter 352, "Water" in its entirety and creating and adopting a new Chapter 352, "Water Utility"

Mayor Womack opened the public hearing on Ordinance #16-08. No comments from the public.
Motion made by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Nicola that the public hearing be closed.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance # 16-08. So moved by Ms. Nicola, second by Mr. Davis, Ordinance No. 16-08 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the May 19, 2016 issue of the Home News and Tribune.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis, Socio and Corbin
Nays: none
Absent: Mr. Andrews

#16-09 - An Ordinance of the Township Council of North Brunswick amending and fixing the salary and wages for various officials and employees of the Township of North Brunswick and providing for the manner of payment thereof

Mayor Womack opened the public hearing on Ordinance #16-08. No comments from the public.
Motion made by Ms. Narra, second by Mr. Davis that the public hearing be closed.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adopt Ordinance # 16-09. So moved by Mr. Socio, second by Mr. Davis, Ordinance No. 16-09 approved on second and final reading and referred to the Mayor for his action and then published in the May 19, 2016 issue of the Home News and Tribune.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs. Davis, Socio and Corbin
Nays: none

Reports from Mayor, Council, Administrator, CFO:

Ms. Narra – Community Yard Sales – North Brunswick Library will be participating inside – Board members will be selling items at affordable prices.

Mr. Socio – May 30th – Memorial Day 5K Run / Walk- fee \$200.00 – most patriotic runners / walkers – top 3 winners will prizes. Classification ‘ age/time winners and raffles.

Mr. Davis – Memorial Day Ceremony - 11:00 am at Veteran’s Park. Pavers are all placed – special thanks to Ms. Benson. Girls Lacrosse won GMC – came in first second time in 3 years. Congratulations to the players, coaches and parents.

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing at 7:14 pm.

Mr. Boiar - resident of North Oaks Blvd. with complaints of the parking on Livingston Avenue on Fridays when the Mosque has services. The Mosque bought a house on Livingston Avenue but the driveway is too narrow for parking. Director Hritz stated that the group bought a residential house and tried to develop the rear for parking – requirements are needed. He met with the group 1-1 ½ years ago – group did not pursue their plan.

Mr. Boiar – Mosque is getting bigger. Questioned if they follow the Fire Marshal’s requirements? Parking spots are all taken at buildings 1 & 2 and #3 & 4 before and after services. They block fire hydrants, park over corners. He asked to have the fire hydrants more noticeable.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close the Public Hearing. So moved by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Socio.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Davis, Socio and Corbin

Absent: Mr. Andrews

Councilman Andrews to the dais at 7:22 pm.

Mayor Womack announced this was the last public council meeting of Business Administrator, Robert Lombard will be attending before his retirement on May 31st. Mr. Lombard came from Jersey City in 2000. Mr. Lombard has been a steady hand that’s made it a pleasure to be part of the Council and he does not know anybody who immediately and thoroughly to this day knows North Brunswick better than he does. Mayor Womack read an article from February 25, 2000 when Mr. Lombard was leaving Jersey City. He is well liked and will be missed and whatever town was getting him would be gaining an asset. Mr. Lombard is a great professional, great gentleman and is easy to work with.

Mr. Socio – joined council in May 2000 just months after Mr. Lombard first came to town. He said the late Mary Pinkham would ask a question and Rob was able to rattle off neighborhoods and streets as if he lived in town. here for Council Meeting used to last until 1:00 am. His temperament had a calming effect. The town at that time was not a happy place. Mr. Socio will miss and hopes to play golf with him this summer.

Mr. Corbin – when he first met Rob he came across very knowledgeable, willing to help, gave the best advice, took interest of residents first and he made the job as council much easier. Mr. Lombard showed us the way to make right decisions.

Mr. Davis – being the Business Administrator is not a 9 to 5 job, work weekends, water pipes – call Rob. Mr. Lombard taught him a lot and he echoed with what others have said. He first met Rob on the Planning Board and at budget meeting he always had a ton of questions. He has the toughest job in the township – negotiate contracts – sometimes he gets the heat and comes back to Council to re-negotiate.

Mr. Andrews – has worked under former Mayor Spaulding and for Mayor Womack – service to the Mayor – both have different personalities – follow rules and regulations. He went to the podium to speak on his behalf when he almost lost his job. He has over the past 16 years overseen budgets, energy efficient systems and the overall revitalization of the town. Rob has an extensive knowledge of civil service rules and the water authority to members of the Council. His information was always good – well resourced and was involved with school board referendums.

Ms. Nicola – all has been said – budget meetings, task forces and has made their job much easier. This is very emotional for her. She and her family have spent much time together with Rob.

Ms. Narra – has been on Council for the past 6 ½ years – the least amount of time. She never worked with a business administrator. He when asked a question would already have answers in his head. Ms. Narra commended him on his dedication and love to the Township of North Brunswick. She praised Rob’s actions during Superstorm Sandy in 2013. He truly loves North Brunswick and as someone who does not live here, that showed every minute during Sandy. Ms. Narra said that one night during a meeting something was happening at her home and Mr. Lombard followed her home. Ms. Narra called Rob a gentleman, good person who will be missed a lot.

Mr. Lombard was very emotional after receiving a papermate as a gift from the Mayor and the Township Council. He said how grateful he is for the years they have been together and the collegiality of this council is extraordinary. The way they worked together was just a period of grace. He appreciated this recognition and certainly appreciated the time in town. It has been an extraordinary time for him and for his family.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. So moved by Mr. Socio, second by Mr. Andrews.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Andrews, Davis, Socio and Corbin

Absent: none

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. So moved by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Socio.

Roll call:

Present: Ms. Narra, Ms. Nicola, Messrs., Andrews, Davis, Socio and Corbin
Absent: none

Adjourn: 7:38 pm

Municipal Clerk
Lisa Russo

